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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Bill J. Pope et al.

Application No.: -

09/494,278

Filed:

January 30, 2000

)Art Unit 3738

For:

PROSTHETIC KNEE JOINT HAVING AT

LEAST ONE DIAMOND ARTICULATION

SURFACE

Examiner:

David J. Isabella

Attorney Docket:

05261.021 / 6061 P

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Honorable Commissioner:

In response to the Office Action dated December 16, 2003, Applicants submit herewith this Response with Remarks.

Remarks

Claims 1-29 and 31-67 are currently pending. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-28, 31-55, 64 and 65.

Priority Claim

The Examiner states that the Applicants' claim for priority has not been perfected as the inventor tree is not consistent. Action, p. 4. Applicants respectfully disagree as Section 201.11 of the M.P.E.P. states that "applications claiming benefit of the earlier filing date under 35